



Chino Mines Company, Hurley, New Mexico 88043 • (505) 537-3381

February 5, 2007

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BY  DATE **2/8/07**

Ms. Cindy Padilla, Director  
New Mexico Environment Department  
Water and Waste Management Division  
P.O. Box 26110  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502

Dear Ms. Padilla:

**Re: Smelter Tailing Soils Investigation Unit Amendment Pilot Study - Chino AOC**

Based upon the agreement between the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) and Chino Mines Company (Chino) during the November 14, 2006 Administrative Order on Consent (AOC) technical managers meeting, Chino will implement the Amendment Study Work Plan for the Smelter/Tailing Soil Investigation Units in the spring of 2007. This agreement is contingent upon Chino modifying the length of monitoring from 1 year as noted in the Amendment Study Work Plan to 5 years following implementation. The goals of this pilot study are to determine the: effectiveness of lime as an amendment; optimum rate of application of lime and organic matter (OM); method for application and tilling; and natural revegetation percentage as a result of the lime and OM. Results of this study will be used to determine if the lime amendment and tilling is an effective remedial action to address the elevated copper concentrations and depressed pH. This study proposal was submitted August 29, 2006 to Messrs. Chris Eustice and Phil Harrigan.

Please contact me at (505) 537-8133 if you have any questions regarding this amendment study.

Sincerely,



Byron G. Belew  
AOC Manager

BGB:pp  
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c Messrs: Chris Eustice, NMED  
Phil Harrigan, NMED  
Mark Purcell, EPA



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